

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SAM-01 SAB-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 AF-06

ARA-06 EA-06 EUR-12 ACDA-05 /097 W

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FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5072

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L AMMAN 4653

GENEVA PASS TO MOYNIHAN

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: JO UN ID PLO XF

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE LAUNCHING OF ARAB CAMPAIGN TO OUST ISRAEL

FROM UNGA AT ISLAMIC CONFERENCE

REF: STATE 161087

1. SUMMARY: CHARGE SOUGHT URGENT APPOINTMENT AND PRESENTED INSTRUCTIONS PER REFTEL TO PRIME MINISTER RIFAI REGARDING POSSIBLE LAUNCHING OF ARAB CAMPAIGN AT ISLAMIC CONFERENCE TO OUST ISRAEL FROM UNGA. RIFAI SAID GOJ FULLY AGREES WITH USG ON ISSUE AND HAS INSTRUCTED GOJ DELEGATION TO LOBBY ACTIVELY TO KEEP ISSUE FROM COMING UP AT ISLAMIC CONFERENCE. END SUMMARY.

2. RIFAI SAID GOJ HAS RUMORS BUT NO DEFINITE INFORMATION THAT SUBJECT MIGHT BE RAISED AT ISLAMIC CONFERENCE. (HE SAID HE HAS ALSO HEARD RUMORS THAT PLO MIGHT RAISE ISSUE AT LIM- NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE). RIFAI STRESSED THAT GOJ IS SERIOUSLY WORRIED
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OVER POSSIBILITY ISSUE MIGHT COME UP AT ISLAMIC CONFERENCE.

IF IT DOES IT WOULD BE VERY DIFFICULT FOR SUCH A GATHERING TO OPPOSE PUBLICLY.

3. RIFAI SAID GOJ FULLY AGREES WITH USG ANALYSIS (OUTLINED PARA 2 REFTEL) OF SERIOUS NEGATIVE CONSEQUENCES OF MOVE TO EXPEL ISRAEL FROM UNGA. HE MENTIONED HIS PARTICULAR CONCERN THAT IT COULD SERIOUSLY HURT THE MOMENTUM FOR PEACE IN THE MIDEAST AND THAT ISRAEL MIGHT FEEL NO LONGER BOUND TO ABIDE BY UN RES 242 AND 338.

4. RIFAI SAID HE HAS INSTRUCTED GOJ DELEGATION (LED BY MIN OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS SADIQ AS SHARI'I) TO LOBBY ACTIVELY TO KEEP ISSUE FROM COMING UP AT CONFERENCE. HE HOWEVER URGED USG TO BE ACTIVE WITH OTHER ARAB COUNTRIES. IT TOLD HIM WE WERE MAKING SIMILAR APPROACHES ELSEWHERE. RIFAI SAID HE THOUGH OTHER MODERATE ARABS(HE MENTIONED SAUDI ARABIA, EGYPT, AND MOROCCO AND TUNISIA SPECIFICALLY) WOULD LISTEN TO REASON ON THIS ONE. HE ADDED THAT SAUDI ARABIA WILL HAVE KEY POSITION AS CHAIRMAN OF THE CONFERENCE. RIFAI AT FIRST INDICATED THAT SYRIA MIGHT BE A PROBLEM BUT LATER SAID HE THOUGH SYRIA MIGHT ALSO COOPERATE WITH EFFORT TO QUASH EXPULSION ISSUE.

5. COMMENT: RIFAI ABVIOUSLY SHARES INTENSITY OF OUR CONCERN AT CONSULTATION AND DIPLOMATIC ACTION ON OUR PARTS AS WELL AS FROM GOJ TO NIP THIS IN THE BUD BEFORE IT GETS ANY PUBLIC EXPOSURE AT ISLAMIC CONFERENCE.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: EXPULSION, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 JUL 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975AMMAN04653
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750238-0453
From: AMMAN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750766/aaaachcy.tel
Line Count: 88
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 161087
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <24 JUN 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <03 NOV 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: POSSIBLE LAUNCHING OF ARAB CAMPAIGN TO OUST ISRAEL FROM UNGA AT ISLAMIC CONFERENCE
TAGS: PFOR, PORG, JO, ID, XF, UN, PLO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006